

The PIER Ecosystem Modeling Project

-assess climate change impacts on CA biodiversity, -estimate changes in potential and realized niches for individual species under climate change scenarios.



Importance of species-level analysis

- Previous research
 Species distribution modeling
 (e.g. Heikkinen et al. 2006; Pearson and Dawson, 2003; Thuiller 2003)
- Community assemblages may disassociate
 - Changes in individual species' dispersal, germination, survival rates.
 - How do species behave individually in the context of competition, dispersal limitations and disturbance?

Species Distribution Modeling (Thuiller et al. 2003)

- Building and validating individual species models
- Reducing uncertainty of models
- Predicting potential niches



Species Distribution Model Methods

GLM/GAM/GBM/CART/ANN
Bayesian Approach

Selecting species & environmental data

Building & validating models

Species Distribution Model Methods

Climate data

Soil data

Max Temp of Warmest Month
Min Temp of Coldest Month
Annual Temp Range
Mean Temp of Wettest Quarter
Mean Temp of Driest Quarter
Precipitation of Wettest Quarter
Precipitation of Driest Quarter

Available Water Capacity

Soil depth

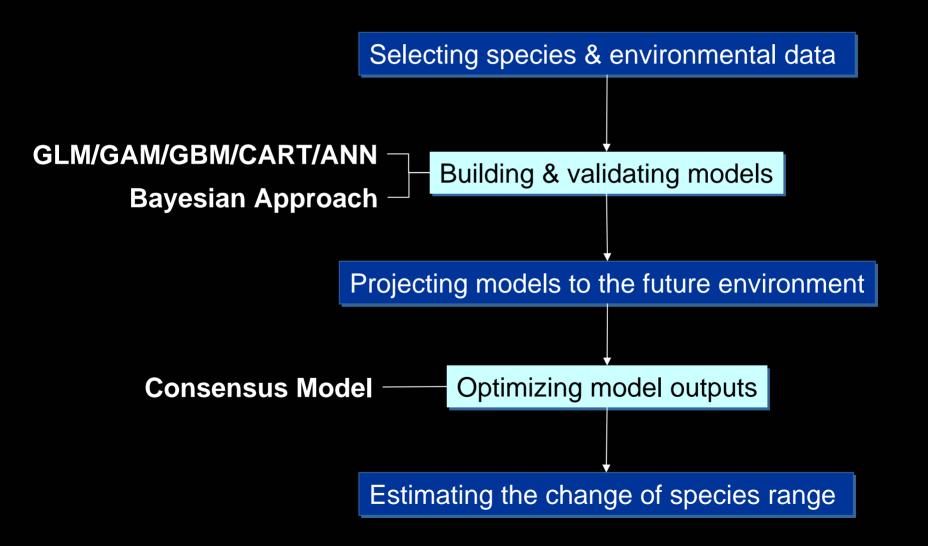
Soil pH

Salinity

Depth of water table



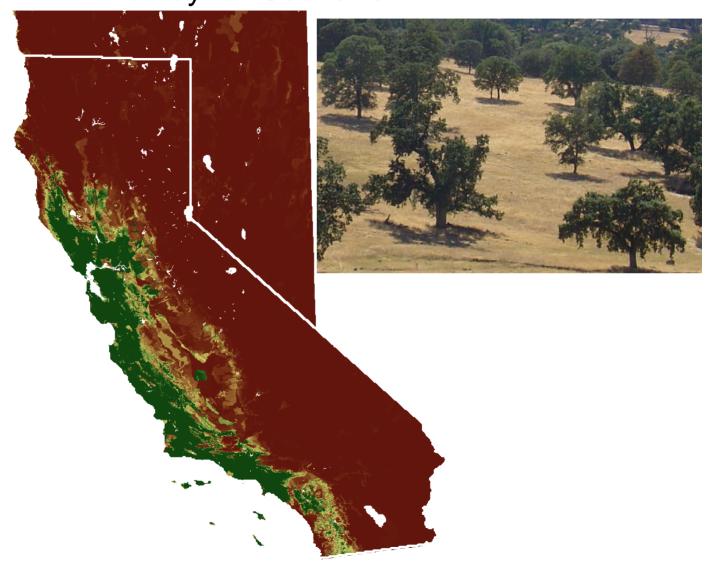
Species Distribution Model Methods



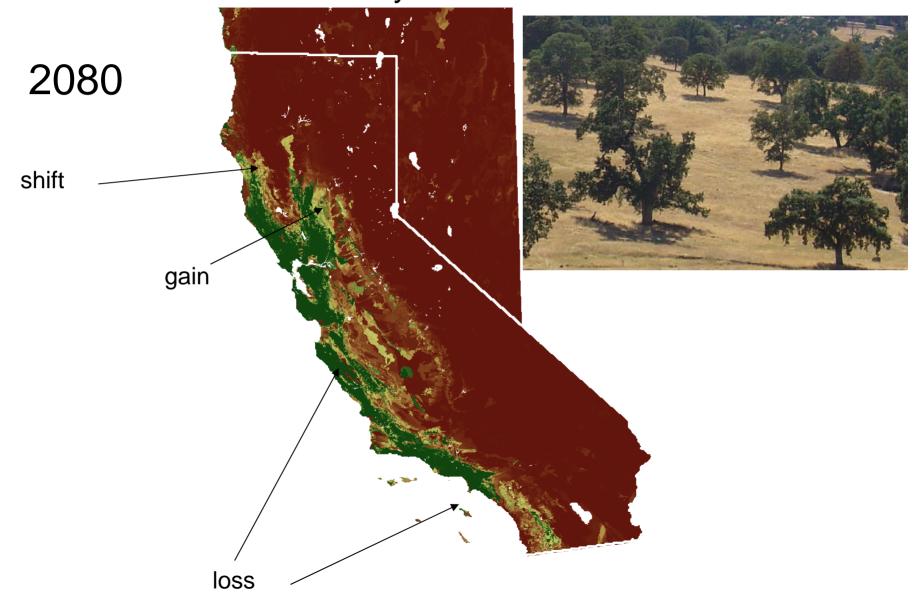


*Quercus agrifolia*Hadley A2 Scenario

Present



*Quercus agrifolia*Hadley A2 Scenario

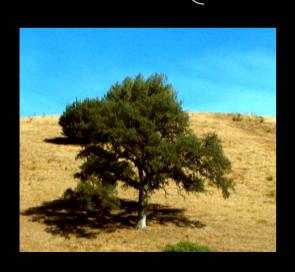


Species Distribution Model Output To Date:

314 Species

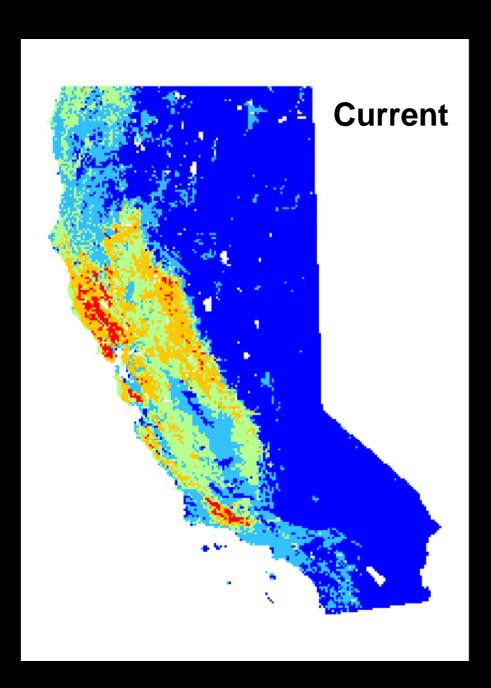
Mojave
Mixed conifer
Coastal sage
scrub

89 California Endemic 13 Pinus spp.15 Quercus spp.13 Ceanothus spp.9 Arctostaphylous spp.

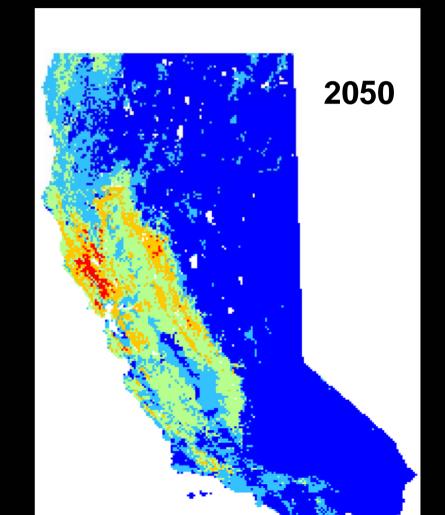








Endemic Richness



What about...

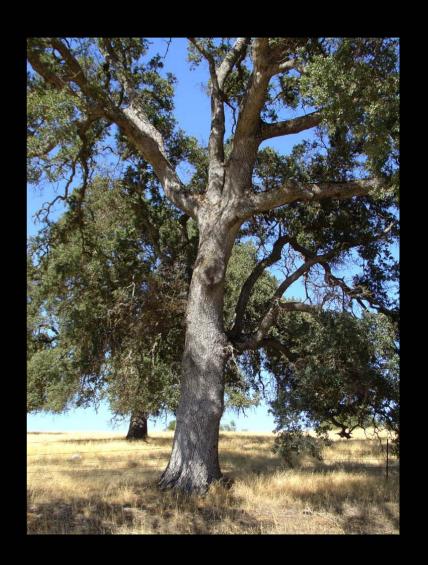
Dispersal?

Short and long distance events

Competition?

Plant functional type-age and size classes, fecundity, mortality, germination

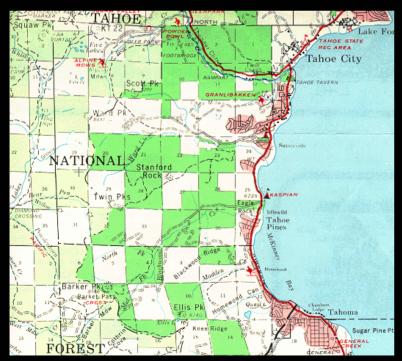
Disturbance?
Fire, grazing



BioMove; a dynamic modeling approach

- A spatially explicit model used to predict the movement of individual species
- Simulates dispersal, competition and disturbance
- Can be used to predict movement of species
 - applied management
 - assess species change under various GHG stabilization trajectories

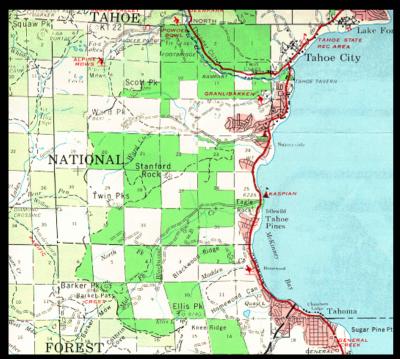
"This is the noblest pine yet discovered, surpassing all others not merely in size but also in kingly beauty and majesty. "
(John Muir, 1894)



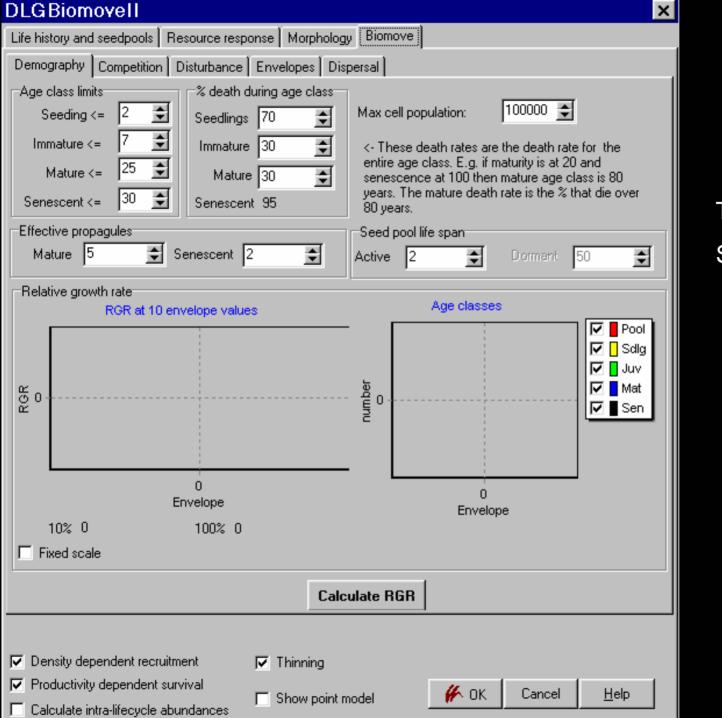




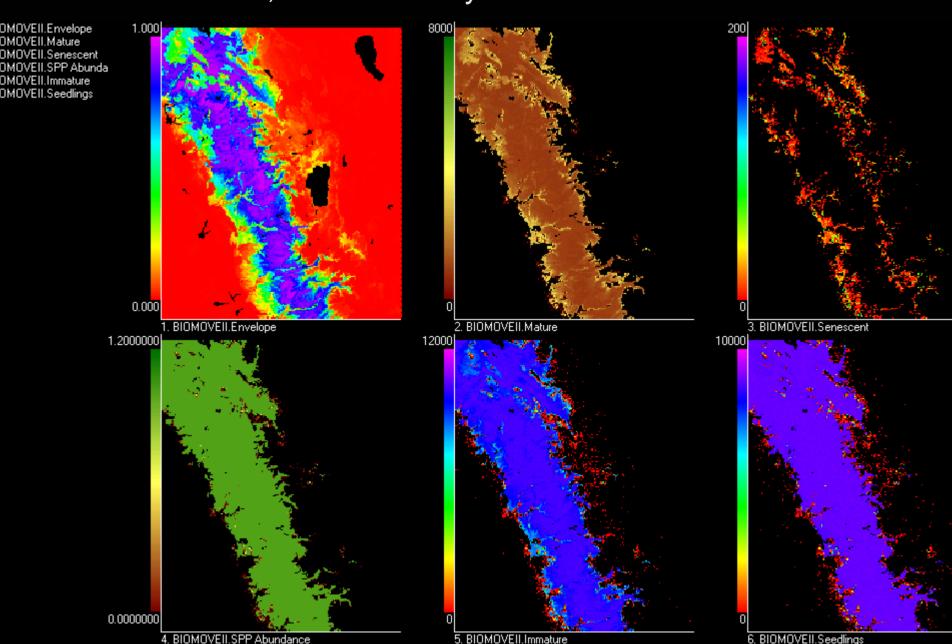
"This is the noblest pine yet discovered, surpassing all others not merely in size but also in kingly beauty and majesty. "
(John Muir, 1894)

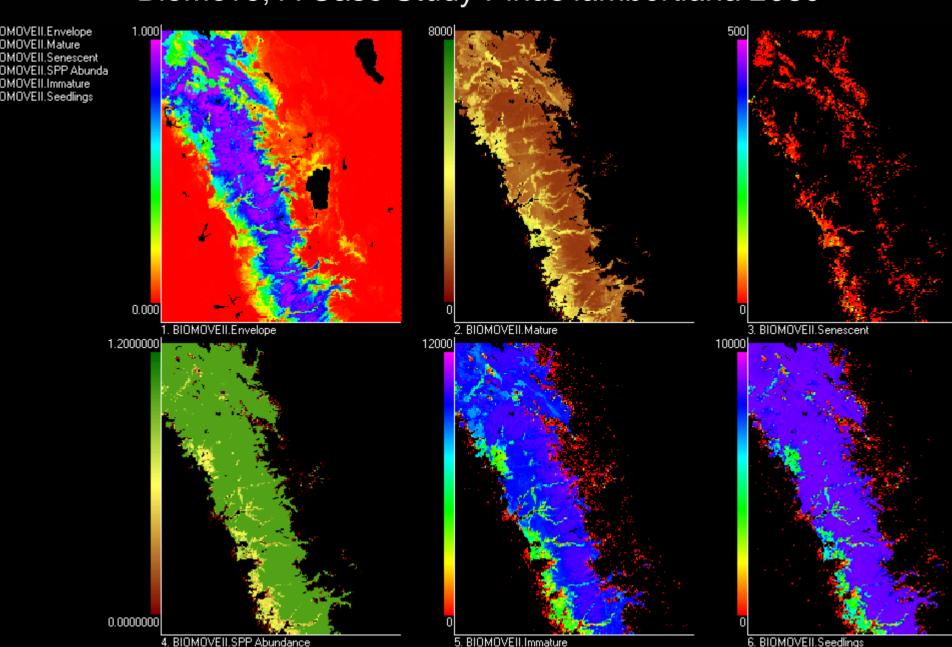


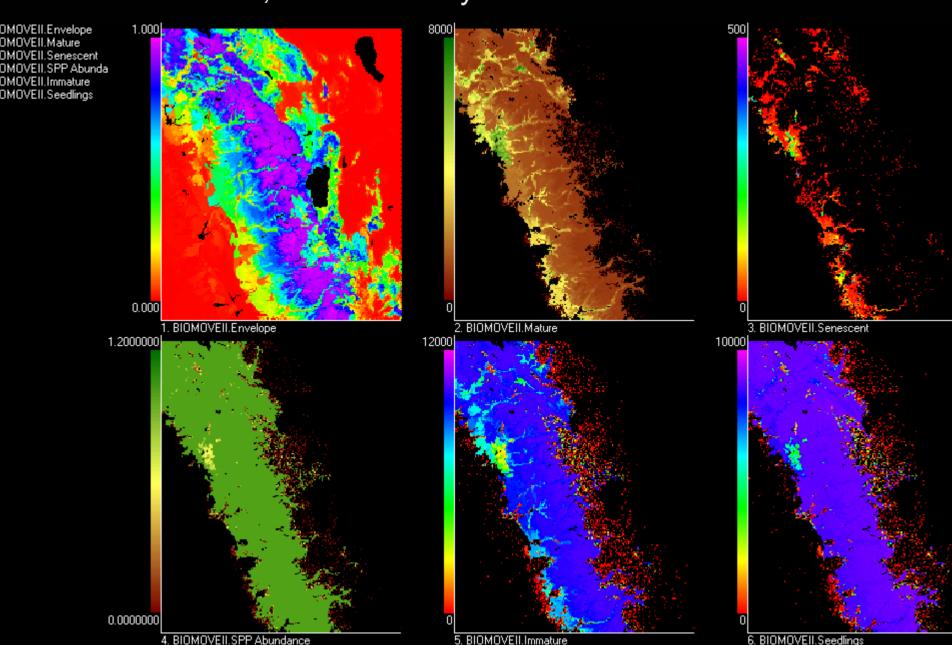
What is the fate of this species in the "checkerboard" region?



Target species Submodules









Spreading upslope in northern region Loosing some downslope abundance Stabilization at 2080

Age class patterns



Next Steps:

Land Use-Timber Harvest

Disturbance-Fire

Disturbance: Fire

- CA Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resources Assessment Program (FRAP)
- 54 Year Average Fire Frequency
- 4 size classes



BioMove: a tool for assessing GHG stabilization scenarios

GHG Stabilization Targets:

EU: 2° C global mean temperature change (~450 ppm, IPCC 2007)

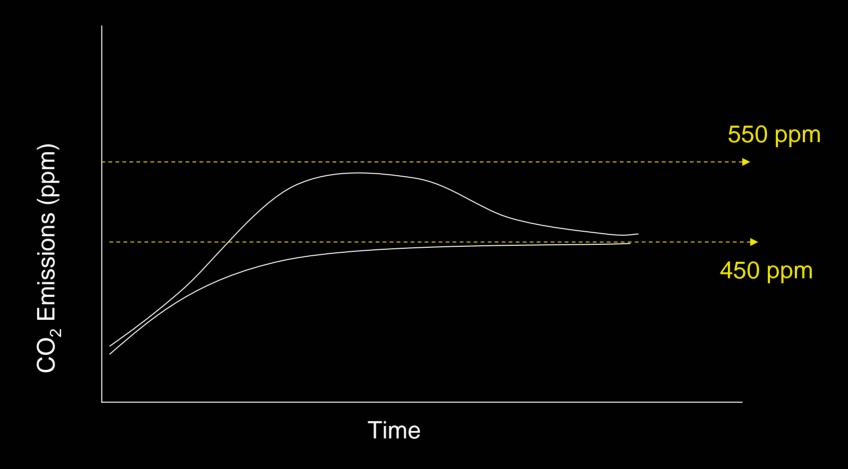
U.S.: USCAP 450-550 ppm CO₂ eq.

Targets set to avoid 'dangerous interference' in the climate system, e.g. avoiding mass extinctions

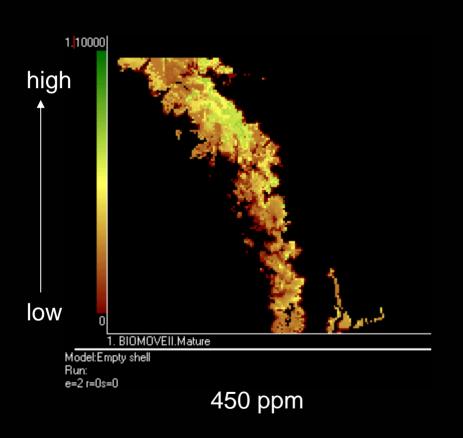
Current levels 420-480 ppm CO₂ eq.

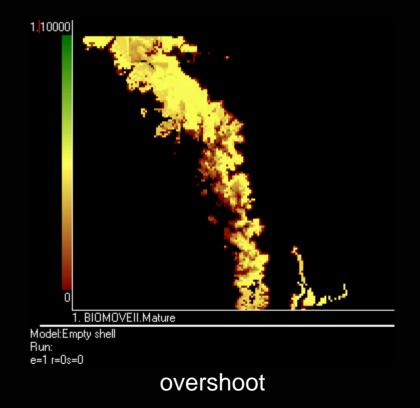
(Pew Center on Global Climate Change, 2007)

BioMove: a tool for assessing GHG stabilization scenarios



GHG Stabilization Scenarios Quercus douglasii





In summary

- √ 314 species library for distribution model outputs
- Coupled outputs with spatially explicit demographic model
- ✓ Predict climate driven shifts in P. lambertiana
- ✓ Predict differences between GHG stabilization projections
- Continue incorporating competition and disturbance models
- ✓ Implications for management strategies, conservation allocation